



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

TOMICH, John M. et al.

Serial No. : 09/710,419

Filed: November 9, 2000

M2GLYR DERIVED CHANNEL
FORMING PEPTIDES

Docket No. 30917

Group Art Unit No. 1646

Examiner: Joseph F. Murphy

9/B
MQJ
12/4/02

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the office action dated June 17, 2002, reconsideration of the above application is requested.

Claims:

30.(Amended) A method of altering the flux of water across an epithelial cell presenting first and second spaced apart surfaces, said method comprising the steps of:

- a. providing a peptide capable of forming a channel assembly for transport of anions through said epithelial cell, said peptide having from between 16-31 amino acid residues and having at least about 35% sequence homology with a peptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 4-47; and
- b. contacting said peptide with said first surface of said epithelial cell, and causing said peptide to alter the flux of water across said cell surface.